

VZCZCXYZ0000
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHUL #3995 3240116
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 200116Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1412
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1555
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1643
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 7629
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0339

UNCLAS SEOUL 003995

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL UNGA KS IS
SUBJECT: ROKG EXPLAINS VOTE FOR NOVEMBER 17 ESS RESOLUTION
REF: STATE 188244

¶1. (SBU) On November 17, poloff delivered reftel demarche, urging capitals to vote against or abstain on an unbalanced draft resolution on Israel that was to be proposed later that day at an Emergency Special Session (ESS) of the UNGA, to Lee Kyung-chul, Deputy Director of the UN Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Lee said his office would need to study the text of the draft resolution that poloff provided. The UN Division, however, was unable to provide a fuller response by close of business.

¶2. (SBU) On November 20, poloff called on Kim Chul-lee, another Deputy Director at MOFAT's UN Division, for an explanation of the ROKG vote for the ESS resolution adopted on November 17. Kim stated that Seoul had intended to abstain on the original draft in consideration of the USG position. Following European Union-initiated modifications to the text's language, Seoul decided to side with the majority to adopt the resolution. Kim stressed that the EU and Japan also supported the resolution to produce its adoption by a vote of 156-7-6.

VERSHBOW